

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA) spoke today on the floor of the House of Representatives in favor of the long term version of [H.R. 3630](#) , the Middle Class Tax Relief and Creation Act of 2011. You can watch a video of the speech [here](#)

as well as read the text of the remarks below:

“Mr. Speaker, taxpayers, small businesses, and health care providers need certainty and predictability to plan for the future. Unfortunately, the bill that’s come back to us from the other chamber makes our usual habit of year-long extensions look responsible by comparison. The Senate bill extends a number of key policies, including the patch preventing a steep cut to doctors’ Medicare payments, for just two months.

“We’ve been down this road before. Last year, under the previous majority, Congress passed five separate extensions of Medicare physician payments, mostly for a month or two at a time. Several times, these patches missed the deadline, meaning payment cuts took effect and then had to be reversed. The failure to responsibly address the SGR created an unprecedented amount of chaos and confusion both for doctors and the Medicare agency. House Republicans have been determined not to let this happen again. That’s why we passed a fully-paid-for, two-year fix.

“The American people are tired of Congress wasting time on political stunts and waiting till the last minute to cobble together half-measures. We still have two weeks before the end of the year to get this right, and there’s no reason to think we’ll do better in two months. Support the motion to go to conference so we can get a responsible solution.”